

 <small>Georgia Technology Authority</small>	Georgia Technology Authority		
Title:	Email Calendaring		
PSG Number:	S-07-004.01	Topical Area: Email	
Document Type:	Standard	Pages: 2	
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POC for Changes:	GTA Information Technology Planning Office		
Synopsis:	Establishes the State standard for the calendaring format for users of email systems.		

PURPOSE

The purpose of this standard is to establish the State standard for the calendaring format for users of email systems.

SCOPE

All Agencies, as that term is defined in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 50-25-1(b)(1), unless specifically exempted, are required to abide by the standards hereby established. All users (employees, contractors, vendors, and other parties) are expected to understand and abide by them.

STANDARD

Calendaring: Email systems must be able to send appointments in the iCalendar format. Calendars should be used primarily for business purposes, but occasional use for personal appointments is allowed.

ENFORCEMENT

Individual state agencies will be responsible for developing detailed procedures to comply with these standards. The standards will guide periodic reviews, as well as audits by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts. In addition, GTA will review applicable hardware, application and service purchases via the APR process to ensure that vendors and contractors are aware of the standards and have agreed to comply with them. Violators of these standards may be subject to employee disciplinary procedures. Agencies may impose sanctions upon their employees for violations of standards.

AUTHORITY

Title:	Email Calendaring Standard
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GTA has the statutory authority to *“set technology policy for all agencies except those under the authority, direction, or control of the General Assembly or state - wide elected officials other than the Governor.”* (see O.C.G.A. § 50-25-4(a)(10)). Additionally, GTA has the authority to, *“establish technology security standards and services to be used by all agencies.”* (see O.C.G.A. § 50-25-4(a)(21)).

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the Standard will be submitted in accordance with the Georgia Technology Authority Exception policy.

TERMS and DEFINITIONS

Electronic mail, abbreviated **e-mail** or **email**, is a method of composing, sending, storing, and receiving messages over [electronic](#) communication systems or Email Systems. The term e-mail applies both to the [Internet](#) e-mail system based on the [Simple Mail Transfer Protocol](#) (SMTP) and to [intranet](#) systems allowing users within one company or organization to send messages to each other.

Email Systems are software and hardware systems that transport messages from one computer user to another. E-mail systems range in scope and size from a local email system that carries messages to users within an agency or office over a local area network (LAN) or an enterprise-wide e-mail system that carries messages to various users in various physical locations over a wide area network (WAN) e-mail system to an e-mail system that sends and receives messages around the world over the internet. Often the same e-mail system serves all three functions.

E-mail messages are electronic documents created and sent or received by a computer via an e-mail system. This definition applies equally to the contents of the communication, the transactional information, and any attachments associated with such communication. E-mail messages are similar to other forms of communicated messages, such as correspondence, memoranda and circular letters.

User Levels

User is the individual who is utilizing the email services.

Calendaring and scheduling tools are included in packages like [Now Up-to-Date & Contact](#), [Novell GroupWise](#), [Netscape Communicator](#), [ContactOffice](#) and [Microsoft Exchange](#). They automatically check the electronic calendar of team members for open time slots, propose alternative meeting times, schedule team meetings or appointments and notify/remind participants by email.

iCalendar is a standard ([RFC 2445](#) or [RFC2445 Syntax Reference](#)) for [calendar](#) data exchange. iCalendar allows users to send meeting requests and tasks to other users through emails. Recipients of the iCalendar email (with supported software) can respond to the sender easily or counter propose another meeting date/time.